New standards for community health centres

4746. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have brought out a new standard for Community Health Centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have decided to provide manpower to Community Health Centres; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to provide quality care in the Community Health Centres, Indian Public Health Standards are being prescribed to provide optimal expert care to the community to achieve and maintain acceptable standards of quality of care. The standards would help to monitor and improve the functioning of the Community Health Centres (CHCs). The minimum requirement in Community Health Centres has been rescribed in terms to offset the efficiency in the availability of required manpower, equipments, drugs and in respect of physical infrastructure. It also includes capacity building of manpower.

(c) and (d) One of the key strategies of the recently launched National Rural Health Mission is to strengthen the Community Health Centres by providing manpower which includes anaesthetist, Public Health Programme Manager & Eye Surgeon in addition to the existing manpower of general Surgeon, Physician, Obstetrician/Gynaecologist & Pediatrics.

Free medicines to AIDS patients

†4747. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide free medical facilities and medicines to the HIV/AIDS patients in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Japan and America have offered financial assistance for the treatment of AIDS; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is already providing free antiretroviral treatment facilities to HIV/AIDS patients through 25 selected government hospitals at present and it is planned to expand the facility in a phased manner. The provision of free drugs for treatment of opportunistic infections is already being provided through all the medical college and district hospitals.

(c) and (d) USAID is assisting NACO in NACP-II through implementation of USAID assisted APAC & AVERT project. The cost outlay of APAC is Rs. 64.58 crores and AVERT project is 16.0 crores. The project period of APAC project 2002-2007 and AVERT is 2000-2007, but this is not for treatment but other activities.

Japan is not providing any asistance under NACP-II for treatment of AIDS.

Indian Organ Transplant Act

4748. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to amend the Indian Human Organ Transplant Act of 1994 to fall it in line with global laws so that Indian patients do not have to go to such countries for Organ Transplantation where it is permitted under their laws; and

(b) whether the Government are also thinking of considering acceding to dying patients' pleas for permitting them to donate their organs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) A Committee has been constituted by the Government on the directions of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi (as per the judgement dated 6.9.2004 in W.P. No. 813/2004) to review the provisions of the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 and the Transplantation of Human Organs Rules, 1995. The composition of the Committee and terms of reference are enclosed as Statement (*See* below).

(b) Under the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 donation of human organs is permitted through live related and un-related donor. However, un-related donors require permission of Authorisation Committee.